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RCE/2837\$

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**REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 10/050,548
Filing Date: January 18, 2002
First Named Inventor: Tohru MITA
Group Art Unit: 2837
Examiner: Marlon T. FLETCHER
Attorney Docket Number: 05905.0157
Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**Note:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, application must request non-entry of such amendment.

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

ii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Enclosed:

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement

iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)

b. ☒ Petition for Extension of Time of Three Months

3. Fees

a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:

i. ☒ \$770.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Petition for extension of time for (Three Months) \$950.00

iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$1,720.00 enclosed.

c. ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

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**Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required**

Name: Richard V. Burgujian	Reg. No.: 31,744
Signature: <i>Anthony L. Lumbi</i> Reg. No. 53,232	Date: December 17, 2003

**Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**

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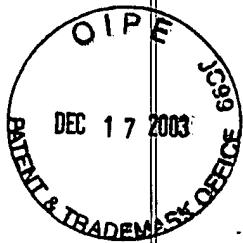
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PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 05905.0157

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
Tohru MITA et al. ) Group Art Unit: 2837  
)  
Application No.: 10/050,548 ) Examiner: Marlon T. Fletcher  
)  
Filed: January 18, 2002 )  
)  
For: AUDIO SIGNAL OUTPUTTING )  
METHOD AND BGM )  
GENERATION METHOD )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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**AMENDMENT**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 18, 2003, the period for response having been extended to December 18, 2003 by a Petition for Extension of Time of three months and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and accompanying a Requested for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper and begin on page 2.

**Remarks** follow the amendment section of this paper and begin on page 8.

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